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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,005	09/28/2003	Denny Jacger	NBOR-009	2386

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EXAMINER

SINGH, RACHNA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/674,005	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JAEGER, DENNY	
	<b>Examiner</b> Rachna Singh	<b>Art Unit</b> 2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to communications: A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 07/11/06 has been entered.
2. Claims 1, 5, and 7-22 were cancelled by the amendment. Claims 23-42 are now pending. Claims 23 and 33 are independent claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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4. Claims 23 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lynn et al., US 2003/0229856 A1, 12/11/03 (PCT filed 2/12/01, provisional application filed on 2/12/00).

Regarding claim 23, Lynn teaches a text grid creation tool which meets the preamble, ***a method for creating and using grids on a computer operating environment***. See abstract. Lynn teaches creating a frame grid by selecting it from a menu which meets the limitation ***activating a grid feature of said computer operating environment to create a first grid***. See page 3, paragraphs [0033]-[0037] and figure 6, 126b. Lynn teaches a user can click a frame grid creation tool and draw a diagonal line with the mouse across the desired length on the screen thus creating a frame grid which meets the limitation ***drawing a diagonal line on said computer operating environment in response to user input to create said first grid, the dimensions of said first grid being determined by the height and width of said diagonal line***. See page 4, paragraph [0043]. Lynn further teaches that the frame grid is an object comprising a frame which is of a rectangular shape and is arranged on the layout grid which meets the limitation ***displaying said first grid on said computer operating environment as a graphic object in response to said user input***. See page 5, paragraph [0046]. Lynn teaches the frame grid comprises horizontal and vertical lines capable of being moved to a desired location by selecting and dragging the frame grid and also capable of changing the dimensions of the frame grid which meets the limitation, ***said first grid including a plurality of parallel lines along a first direction***

***and at least one line along a second direction to intersect at least one of said parallel lines, said first grid being configured to be modifiable with respect to size, said first grid further being configured to be movable on said computer operating environment.*** See page 5, paragraph [0046]-[0048].

Claim 33 is drawn to a computer readable storage medium embodying the computer program executing the method steps of claim 23 and thus are rejected under the same rationale used in claim 23 above.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 24-32 and 34-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lynn et al., US 2003/0229856 A1, 12/11/03 (PCT filed 2/12/01, provisional application filed on 2/12/00).

Regarding claim 24, Lynn teaches a user can create multiple frame grids by selecting the grid tool and drawing a diagonal line with the mouse across the desired

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length on the screen thus creating a frame grid which meets the limitation, ***drawing another diagonal line on said computer operating environment in response to another user input to create a second grid, the dimensions of said second grid being determined by the height and width of said another diagonal line.*** See page 4, paragraph [0043]. Lynn further teaches that the frame grid is an object comprising a frame which is of a rectangular shape and is arranged on the layout grid which meets the limitation, ***displaying said second grid on said computer operating environment as another graphic object in response to said another user input.*** See page 5, paragraph [0046]. Lynn teaches the frame grid comprises horizontal and vertical lines capable of being moved to a desired location by selecting and dragging the frame grid and also capable of changing the dimensions of the frame grid. See page 5, paragraph [0046]-[0048].

Lynn does not teach a user can drag the first grid over the portion of *the second grid* or that the first grid is napped to the second grid; however, Lynn teaches the grid can be dragged within the layout grid which provides reference lines when arranging text or objects such as graphics at a specified location on each page of a document and snapped at a desired location. The user can arrange the desired object at the desired location. The layout grid are vertical reference lines and horizontal reference lines displayed on a screen and a user arranges the desired object while referring to those reference lines. The user can create a frame on the layout grid and include characters and graphics in this frame and to position the frame and the data contained at the location on the page by manipulating the frame. A plurality of attraction points (snap

points) are provided in the layout grid and are provided in the frame grid and the frame is positioned at the predetermined location on the layout grid. See page 2, paragraph [0033]. A frame grid is formed by a dragging grid tool where a frame grid is selected by clicking a selection tool. The frame grids are arranged on layout grid and can be moved to desired locations by selecting and dragging the frame grid. See figure 9 and page 5, paragraphs [0046]-[0048]. The frame grids are snapped to the layout grid.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extend Lynn's snapping a frame grid to a layout grid to include snapping among two frame grids because it would enable one frame grid to be positioned at a predetermined location on the other frame grid. See page 3, paragraph [0033].

Regarding claim 25, Lynn teaches changing the horizontal spacing and vertical spacing of the frame grids. See pages 7-8, paragraphs [0058]-[0070]. Lynn does not teach that the changes are made using a menu with selections to change the spacing of the *frame grid*, rather he teaches changing the spacing of the layout grid using a menu. Lynn teaches the second menu 21 of FIG. 3 displays only the parameters that are particularly important for the invention; of course it is possible to add other appropriate parameters can be added to second menu 21. The second menu 21 shown in FIG. 4 shows that it is possible to set parameters such as "orientation", "font", "dimensions", "intercharacter spacing", "character scale", "line scale", "interline spacing", etc. as grid settings. In this case "orientation" refers to the attribute describing whether the plurality of cells constituting the layout grid has text written horizontally or written vertically. The

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text is "horizontal" in the example shown in the drawing, so the layout grid is a layout grid for horizontal writing, while if "vertical" were set, a layout grid for vertically written text would be formed. Next, font ("Ming-Dynasty style" in this example), dimensions ("12 point" in this example), intercharacter spacing (also known as "character spacing"; "0 pt" in this example, i.e. zero space between characters), and character scale ("100%" in this example) are parameters that determine the horizontal positioning and dimensions of the plurality of cells in the layout grid. Also shown as grid settings are line scale ("100%" in this example) and interline spacing (also known as "line spacing"; "6 pt" in this example, i.e. 6 points); these parameters determine grid cell spacing and vertical dimensions. See page 3, paragraph [0037].

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Lynn to also allow the changing of spacing in the first grid to be executed using a menu instead of having a user drag various control points to change the dimensions because using a menu is more efficient in that the user does not have to calculate margins or grid dimensions. See page 1, paragraph [0005]-[0008].

In reference to claim 26, Lynn teaches dragging a graphic object over a layout grid in response to user input dragging the object and snapping the object to the layout grid. Lynn teaches the grid can be dragged within the layout grid which provides reference lines when arranging text or objects such as graphics at a specified location on each page of a document and snapped at a desired location. The user can arrange the desired object at the desired location. The layout grid are vertical reference lines



and horizontal reference lines displayed on a screen and a user arranges the desired object while referring to those reference lines. The user can create a frame on the layout grid and include characters and graphics in this frame and to position the frame and the data contained at the location on the page by manipulating the frame. A plurality of attraction points (snap points) are provided in the layout grid and are provided in the frame grid and the frame is positioned at the predetermined location on the layout grid. See page 2, paragraph [0033]. A frame grid is formed by a dragging grid tool where a frame grid is selected by clicking a selection tool. The frame grids are arranged on layout grid and can be moved to desired locations by selecting and dragging the frame grid. See figure 9 and page 5, paragraphs [0046]-[0048]. The frame grids are snapped to the layout grid.

However, Lynn does not teach the graphic object is snapped to the first grid, rather the layout grid.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extend Lynn's snapping a graphic object to a layout grid to include snapping the graphic object to a first (frame) grid because it would enable the graphic object to be positioned at a predetermined location on a frame grid. See page 3, paragraph [0033].

Regarding claim 27, Lynn teaches a frame grid is an object comprising a frame--i.e., a frame itself--and the grid contained therein. Typesetting and layout processing is performed by arranging characters in a specified arrangement inside a plurality of grid

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cells demarcated by a grid and arranging the grid frame at a specified location on layout grid 123 as explained previously. That is, as shown in FIG. 9, the frame grids 30 and 31 in accordance with the invention have a basically rectangular shape, and comprise a plurality of grid cells forming a grid therein. One character can be positioned in each grid cell. Frame grids 30 and 31 are arranged on layout grid 123, and can be moved to the desired location by selecting and dragging the desired frame grid using selection tool 126a in tool box 126, for example. In this case layout grid 123 can be moved while keeping the stance pictured in frame grids 30 and 31, and additionally, when the attraction (snap) mode is on, the frame grid moves while being sporadically attracted to a plurality of attraction points provided on layout grid 123. In the example shown in FIG. 9, frame grid 30 is a horizontal writing grid formed by dragging grid tool 126b, and frame grid 31 is a vertical writing grid formed by dragging grid tool 126b. Furthermore, frame grid 30 is selected by clicking with selection tool 126a, for example, and this status is indicated by the appearance of eight handles (also known as "control points") 32a-32h on the frame of frame grid 30. These eight handles can act as attraction points to be attracted to attraction points on layout grid 123 when moving frame grid 30 on layout grid 123, for example. In addition, they can act as points for changing the dimensions of the frame grid. Frame grid 31 is not selected, so its eight handle points are concealed.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extend Lynn's providing of a visual indicator of an align point of a graphic object to a layout grid to include a visual indicator of the graphic object to a first

(frame) grid because it would enable the graphic object to be positioned at a predetermined location on a frame grid. See page 3, paragraph [0033].

Regarding claim 28, Lynn teaches the appearance of eight handles on the frame of the frame grid which act as snap points. See figure 9, 32a-32h. The visual indicator is a circle around an align point.

Regarding claim 29, Lynn teaches a frame grid is an object comprising a frame-- i.e., a frame itself--and the grid contained therein. Typesetting and layout processing is performed by arranging characters in a specified arrangement inside a plurality of grid cells demarcated by a grid and arranging the grid frame at a specified location on layout grid 123 as explained previously. That is, as shown in FIG. 9, the frame grids 30 and 31 in accordance with the invention have a basically rectangular shape, and comprise a plurality of grid cells forming a grid therein. One character can be positioned in each grid cell. Frame grids 30 and 31 are arranged on layout grid 123, and can be moved to the desired location by selecting and dragging the desired frame grid using selection tool 126a in tool box 126, for example. In this case layout grid 123 can be moved while keeping the stance pictured in frame grids 30 and 31, and additionally, when the attraction (snap) mode is on, the frame grid moves while being sporadically attracted to a plurality of attraction points provided on layout grid 123. In the example shown in FIG. 9, frame grid 30 is a horizontal writing grid formed by dragging grid tool 126b, and frame grid 31 is a vertical writing grid formed by dragging grid tool 126b. Furthermore, frame

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grid 30 is selected by clicking with selection tool 126a, for example, and this status is indicated by the appearance of eight handles (also known as "control points") 32a-32h on the frame of frame grid 30. These eight handles can act as attraction points to be attracted to attraction points on layout grid 123 when moving frame grid 30 on layout grid 123, for example. In addition, they can act as points for changing the dimensions of the frame grid. Frame grid 31 is not selected, so its eight handle points are concealed.

However, Lynn does not teach the graphic object is snapped to the first grid, rather the layout grid.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extend Lynn's snapping a graphic object to a layout grid to include snapping the graphic object to a first (frame) grid because it would enable the graphic object to be positioned at a predetermined location on a frame grid. See page 3, paragraph [0033].

Regarding claim 30, Lynn teaches the appearance of eight handles on the frame of the frame grid which act as snap points. See figure 9, 32a-32h. The visual indicator is a circle around an align point.

Regarding claim 31, Lynn teaches moving a graphic object without jumps in movement over a layout grid; however, Lynn does not teach the graphic object is moved over a first grid created by a diagonal line.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to extend Lynn's snapping a graphic object to a layout grid to include snapping the graphic object to a first (frame) grid because it would enable the graphic object to be positioned at a predetermined location on a frame grid. See page 3, paragraph [0033].

Regarding claim 32, Lynn teaches a user can create multiple frame grids by selecting the grid tool and drawing a diagonal line with the mouse across the desired length on the screen thus creating a frame grid which meets the limitation, ***drawing another diagonal line on a canvas of a VDACC object in response to another user input to create a second grid, the dimensions of said second grid being determined by the height and width of said another diagonal line.*** See page 4, paragraph [0043]. Lynn further teaches that the frame grid is an object comprising a frame which is of a rectangular shape and is arranged on the layout grid which meets the limitation, ***displaying said second grid on said canvas of said VDACC object as another graphic object in response to said another user input.*** See page 5, paragraph [0046]. Lynn teaches the frame grid comprises horizontal and vertical lines capable of being moved to a desired location by selecting and dragging the frame grid and also capable of changing the dimensions of the frame grid. See page 5, paragraph [0046]-[0048].

Claims 34-42 are drawn to a computer readable storage medium embodying the computer program executing the method steps of claims 24-32 respectively and thus are rejected under the same rationale used in claims 24-32 above respectively.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's amendments filed 07/11/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on page 8 of the Remarks that Lynn does not disclose the limitations of *drawing a diagonal line on said computer operating environment in response to user input to create said first grid, the dimensions of said first grid being determined by the height and width of said diagonal line*. Examiner disagrees. Lynn teaches creating a frame grid by selecting it from a menu. See page 3, paragraphs [0033]-[0037] and figure 6, 126b. Lynn teaches a user can click a frame grid creation tool and draw a diagonal line with the mouse across the desired length on the screen thus creating a frame grid. See page 4, paragraph [0043].

Applicant further argues with respect to dependent claims 24-32 and 34-42 that various claim limitations are not taught. Examiner has addressed dependent claims in

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light of the amendments made to the independent claims from which they depend above.

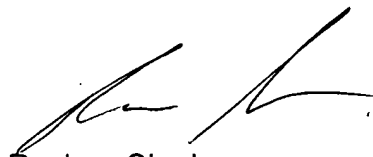
Thus in view of these comments, the rejections are maintained.

***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh whose telephone number is 571-272-4099. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30AM-6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rachna Singh  
09/20/06